



# TACRON TIMES



## From the Commanding Officer's Desk

September—October 2014

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Blackjack Family and Friends,

It's almost time to welcome back our Sailors and your loved ones from BATAAN! They are ready to be home, but continue to excel on the watch! The number of awards, warfare pins, and professional qualifications are astounding! I'm really proud of you and am continuously impressed, Det ONE!

Unfortunately, much of the squadron will be underway for Exercise BOLD ALLIGATOR when Det ONE returns. I have a core team of officers and chiefs that will ensure the return goes smoothly so our returning Sailors can begin their reunion with you and their families. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us, our Ombudsman Karina Hidalgo, or Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC). The Fall season is upon us! Kasey and I love this time of year with the cooler weather. We have our home decked out for Halloween and are already looking for new recipes to try for Thanksgiving. We've even started some holiday shopping! This also means things are quite busy and can even get expensive. Please plan and budget...and stick to your budget! FFSC and Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society have financial specialists who can really help you budget for success...and it's free!

It's not just busy at home but also here at the command! MWR has been rocking it with recent events and more coming this month. Please come out to the Chili Cook-Off this Thursday, October 9th, and to the Family Halloween Festival on Friday, October 24th. Thanks to all who help make each MWR event a success!

The photos inside this edition are great! The "Talk Like A Pirate 5K" was a lot of fun. I have to give credit to Mrs. Bethany Ruley who took a hit for the team (and on her feet) by running in boots. Absolutely awesome! We wrapped up our volunteer season with the Norfolk Tides and received a check to our MWR for over \$2700! Thanks to AC2 Winters who manages our volunteer programs and to all who contributed; this will go a long way toward the holiday party to help defray costs and buy prizes!

Congrats to our 3rd Quarter Sailors of the Quarter: Senior Sailor of the Quarter AC1 Nolan, Junior Sailor of the Quarter AC2 Winters, and Blue Jacket of the Quarter OSSN Winbush! Of note, AC1 Nolan and OSSN Winbush were selected and awarded Sailor of the Quarter for Commander, Amphibious Squadron SIX, as well! Job well done!

Specifically, congratulations and BZ to our Sailors underway who have earned the following since the last newsletter:

Tactical Air Control Center Watch Officer (TACCWO): LCDR Johnson  
Tactical Air Control Center Supervisor (TACCSUP): AC1 Nichols, AC2



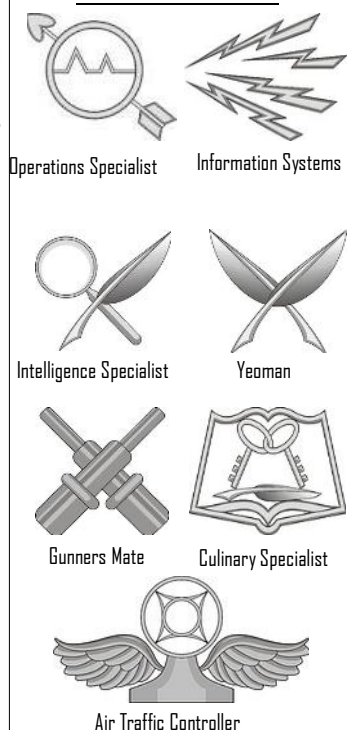
CDR William B. Bushman

Vicioso, AC2 C.M. Jones  
Amphibious Air Traffic Control Center Supervisor: AC1 Nolan  
Tactical Air Director/Tactical Air Traffic Controller (TAD/TATC): AC1 Lowery, AC1 Ayalarcellos (USS BATAAN), AC2 Mills  
TACC or AATCC Stat Board: AC2 Beltran  
Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist (EAWS): AC1 Lowery, AC2 Beltran, YN2 Price, AC2 Green, IT2 Doerfler, AC3 Burleson, AC3 Adams  
Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS): AC2 Shipman, AC2 C.M. Jones, AC2 Vicioso, AC2 Thies, AC2 Mills, OS3 Heuring, OSSN Winbush

Don't forget to like us on Facebook! We use the page to help disseminate info, such as weather delays and closures. It's not the only way, but it's one of the ways!

Cheers,  
Billy Bushman

### Rates at the Command





# Senior Enlisted Corner



2014 started out busy and looks like it will finish up busy. Blackjacks, you should all be very proud of the accomplishments that you and the command have achieved so far. I am sure that there will be many more great things accomplished by the end of 2014. We cannot forget to thank the families who have supported us through all of our accomplishments. Their love and support is what makes us get up each day and strive to be the best that we could possibly be.

I would like to congratulate AC1 Nichols and AC2 Mills on their recent promotions by the Commanding Officer through the Command Advancement Program. The selection process is not easy and they were the top choices out of all the nominations. Well done AC1 and AC2!

I had the pleasure of participating in two Hard Charger Luncheons since arriving at TACRON 21. Hard Chargers are Sailors who are recognized by their Department Head, Leading Chief Petty Officer or Leading Petty Officer for going above and beyond their normal duty or job responsibilities. Each Sailor selected by their department gets the opportunity to eat lunch paid for by their Chief. At the end of the lunch, the CO takes time to congratulate and thank each Sailor for their hard work and contributions to the command. Congratulations to the following Hard Chargers: OS3 Martinez, IS2 Lajiness, AC2 Winters, YN3 Ballard, AC2 Huffman, AC3 Cole, AC3 Saxton, AC2 Finks, IT2 Lee, and AC3 Bostrom.

Thank you to CBMU-202 for renovating the roof on our gazebo. They dealt with structural issues, supply shortages and crazy weather while also having to complete other tasks assigned to them by their command. I look forward to using our gazebo for future TACRON events. Job well done Fighting Sea Bees!

I will end by saying that this is by far, the best group of Sailors I have worked for. Your dedication, loyalty, and commitment to the command are noticed by many people outside of our building. You are what makes this Navy the finest Navy in the world.

Senior



ALCS(AW/SW) Dave Buehner



## Resource of the MONTH



MILITARY RETIREES, TRANSITIONING MILITARY,  
FAMILY MEMBERS & SURVIVING SPOUSES

*You are invited to attend  
the Navy Mid-Atlantic Region's*

### Annual Retiree Summit & Career Fair

**Saturday, November 1, 2014**

**8 a.m. to noon • JEB Little Creek, Rockwell Hall**

- Presentations will be provided on current policies and legislation.
- FLU SHOTS!!! (limited availability)
- U.S. Navy Mobile Dental Unit
- NMCP Health & Information Booths
- Representatives from military, federal and community organizations will be on site to answer questions!
- 20+ global and local employers including L-3 Communications, Newport News Shipbuilding, Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Shell Oil, Valkyrie Enterprises, NAF Human Resources and others.

**FOR MORE DETAILS, CALL 462-7563.**





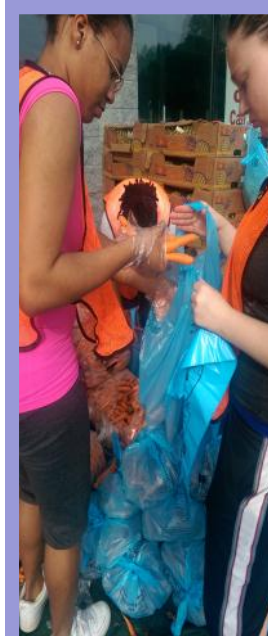


# Food Bank



Volunteers (L to R): DS3 Martinez, DS2 Laginess, DS3 Tige, IS2 Lajiness, AC2 Emmons

TACRON 21 has been actively involved in the community by volunteering at the Food Bank, helping sort and distribute donated goods. Tacron strongly believes in helping and giving back to the community. These pictures represent a food bank in Franklin, VA where volunteers placed a bag of carrots, bread, poultry packages, and canned goods inside vehicles aligned in a parking lot.



Volunteers separate carrots into bags to be distributed to families in need.



# Command Picnic



First Class Petty Officer Association put together a horseshoe tournament for the command picnic. Congratulations to OSC McElroy and AC2 Dennler on first place, winning 72 hr special liberty. Second place: AC2 Huffman and ACAN Jones and third place: ACI Anderson and YNI Falls.







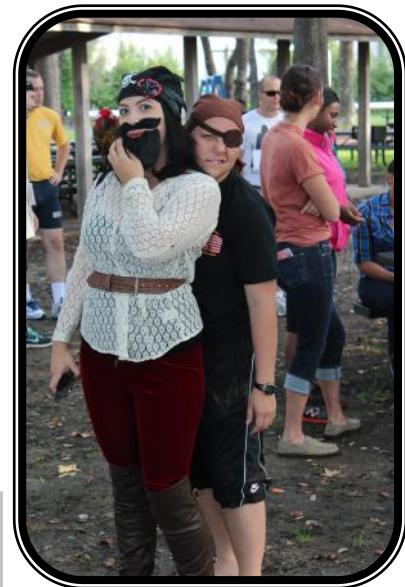
August 29th, TACRON hosted a summer command picnic for command personnel and family members to enjoy the last days of summer before labor day and the commencement of school.







# Pirate Day 5k



ACAN Momb and AC2 Finks.



On September 19, TACRON TWO ONE held it's first annual themed Pirate Day 5k. Participants were encouraged to dress like a pirate while running the race. Awards were given out for Best Male finish and Best Female finish and an award was given for best dressed pirates.

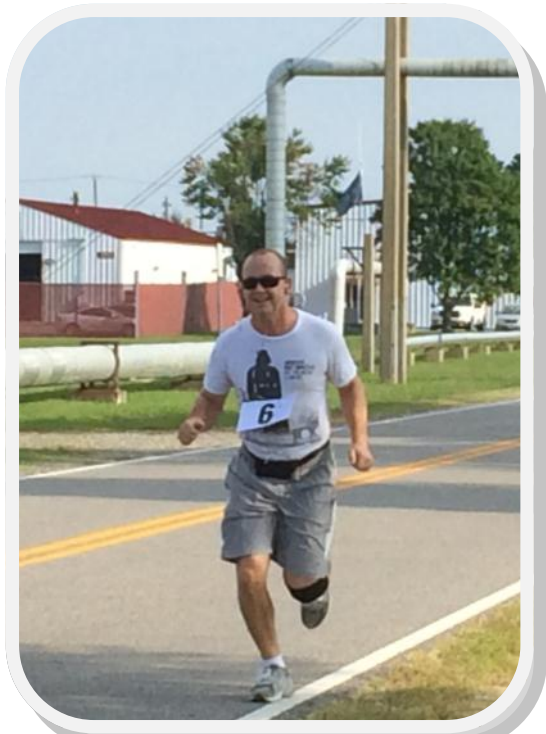


ACI Nichols and family .



From left to right OSSA Sharp, YN3 Ballard, OSI Fuller, and ACCS Buehner take a selfie before the race begins.





LT Wiggins looking mighty cheerful running, that's the spirit!



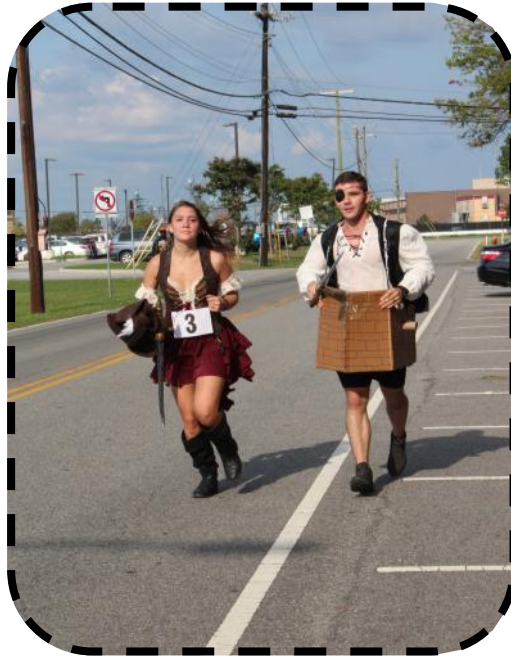
ACAN Ruley and wife, Bethany, get in the spirit of Pirate Day



Pictured Below ACAN Adams and ACAN Sanchez at the water stop providing water for our runners.



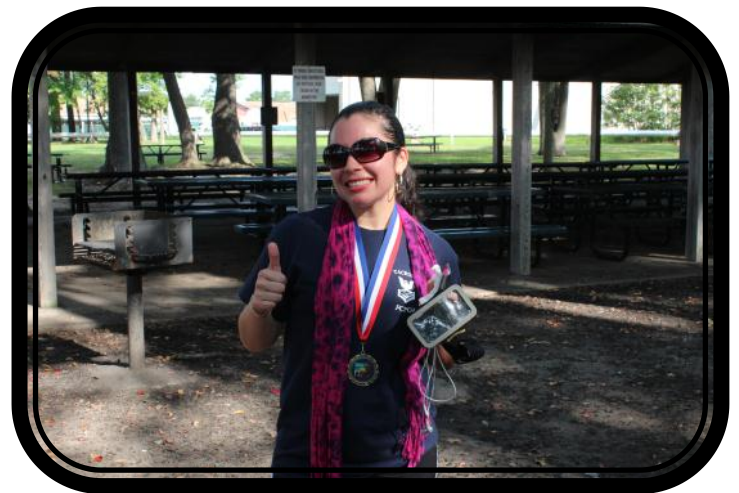




Congratulations to LCDR French for fastest male winner finishing in time 16:30



Congratulations to ACAN Ruley and wife, Bethany, for best pirate costumes!



Congratulations to ACI Anderson for fastest female winner finishing in time 28:28



# FT Story Command Challenge

September 26th, 2014

TACRON fielded a team to participate in the annual FT Story Command Challenge. Team members competed in 6 events: Kayak race, swim race, geography test, basketball noodle levitation, obstacle course and land mine. Team Members included: CDR Bushman, LT Smith, IS2 Lajiness, OS2 Rosenbaum, YN2 Abreu, AC3 Bostrom, AC3 Tiemstra, ACAN Debblay, ACAN Dwyer, ACAN Ruley, and ACAN Sanchez. In a repeat of last year, TACRON finished in 4th place.





LT Smith and IS2 Lajiness army crawl through the mud during the obstacle course event. Way to get down and dirty!

Team members had to levitate a basketball with noodles with out having the noodles bend, touching the basketball with their hands or dropping it. From start to finish it was roughly around 25 feet.



AC3 Bostrom participates in the race swim as he rushes to get out of the water to allow his next team member to go.







# Hispanic Heritage Month Potluck



On September 24, TACRON TWO ONE and TWO TWO came together to enjoy a Powerpoint presentation and a potluck luncheon in honor of September being Hispanic Heritage month.







**FIESTA!**



# Command Advancement Program

Each year the Commanding Officer has the authority to advance eligible Sailors to the next higher paygrade. The Command Advancement Program (CAP) was established as an incentive for seagoing personnel to be recognized for superior performance while working in a rigorous operation environment experienced at sea or while forward deployed. TACRON's two recipients were AC3 Mills (now AC2 Mills) and AC2 Nichols (now AC1 Nichols).



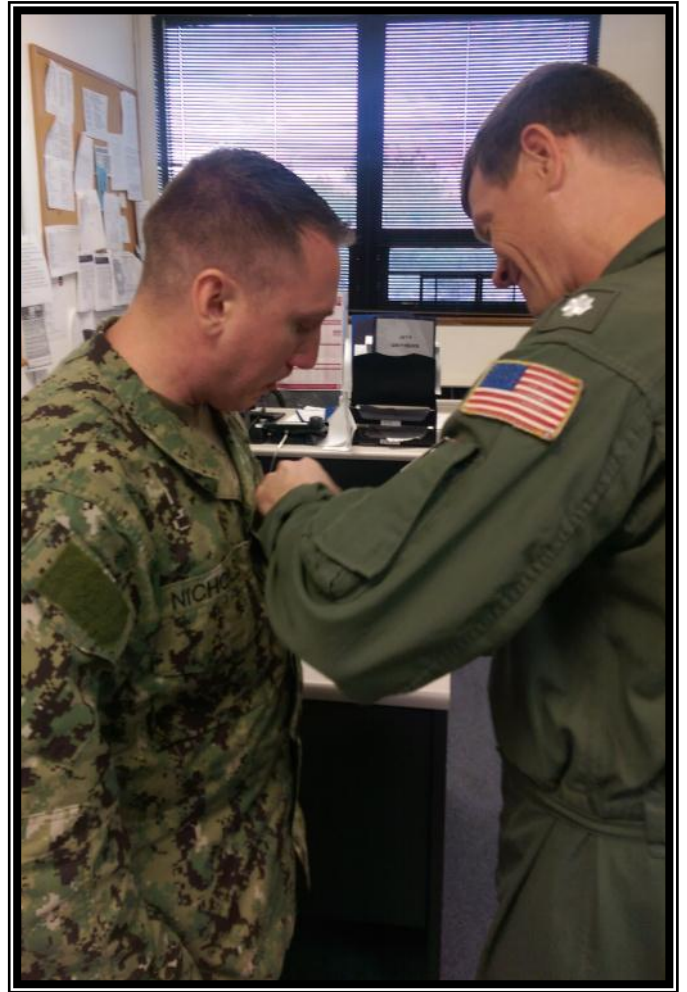
Executive Officer, CDR Shannon presents AC2 Mills with her letter of designation to Second Class Petty Officer.



OSC Williams, AC2 Mills, and ACC Byrd on board USS BATAAN



## Congratulations AC1 Nichols!



AC1 Nichols was surprised to see CDR Bushman walk into training to CAP him to a First Class Petty Officer.

AC1 Nichols admitted, "When CDR Bushman removed my rank I thought I was getting demoted, never did I expect to get promoted".



# Congratulations!



Above: DS2 Grippi receives his Navy and Marine Achievement Award from CDR Bushman.



Left: AC2 Vicioso receives his Navy and Marine Achievement Award from CDR Bushman.



DS2 Laginess receives her good conduct medal from CDR Bushman for professionalism and outstanding performance during her first three years in the Navy.



AC2 Winters receives her plaque as Junior Sailor of the Quarter, 3rd Quarter.

Not Pictured: AC1 Nolan, Senior Sailor of the Quarter, 3rd Quarter and OSSN Winbush, Blue Jacket of the Quarter, 3rd Quarter. Both were deployed onboard the USS BATAAN.

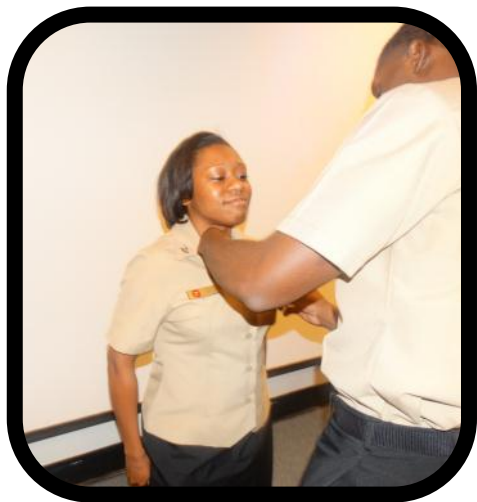




DS2 Grippi gets Air Warfare pinned by LCDR Beam. He qualified as an Air Warfare Specialist during his 5 month deployment on the USS Bataan.



AC3 Bostrom gets Air Warfare pinned by Capt Love. He qualified as an Air Warfare Specialist during his 5 month deployment on the USS Bataan.



IT2 Lee says, "I had a goal I wanted to achieve while on deployment and that was to qualify with three warfare pins. I was determined and feel accomplished of being able to do what I set out for".



While serving a 6 months on the USS BATAAN, IT2 Lee completed her Surface Warfare, Air Warfare, and Information Dominance Warfare qualifications. She was pinned by her fiancé CS3 Dre Thompson.

# Farewell and Good Luck



DS2 Grippi leaves TACRON after 4 and a half years. He moves on to his next command, NRD San Diego for recruiting.



AC2 Shipman leaves TACRON after 3 years and goes on to a shore duty facility at Naval Station Norfolk.



AC2 Vicioso leaves TACRON after 3 years and heads to Naval Air Station, Key West.

ACC Trammell leaves TACRON after 3 years. She continues on to air traffic control duty at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas.







# Reunion Brief



**September 16th, 2014**

A Sailor's return from deployment is always a joyous occasion, but at times it also can be a trying adjustment. TACRON sponsored a Family Reunion brief at the USO. This brief was to provide spouses and family members on information, what to expect upon their Sailor's return and to voice any concern they may have.





# Reenlistments



AC2 Huffman is given the Oath of Enlistment by LT Smith. AC2 re-enlisted for an additional 6 years before departing on an 11 month Individual Augmentation to ISA Airbase Bahrain.



AC2 Vicioso re-enlists aboard the USS Bataan for 6 years. His re-enlisting officer was LCDR Kesler. AC2 will be leaving TACRON October 3rd traveling to Key West for his next duty station.



YNI Falls re-enlists for 4 more years. She is scheduled to transfer from TACRON in 2015. Her re-enlisting officer was ENS Gamble. She is accompanied by her husband and two children.





# Upcoming Events



## Chili Cook-off

October 9th, MWR is hosting a chili cook-off at TACRON. Winner of the best tasting chili will move on to be judged at Norfolk Naval Station Fleet Fest October 18th representing TACRON 21. There will be 20 competitors, from 20 different commands. 1st place winner will be given \$400 towards their command's MWR.

Let's win this!



## DET Return and Bold Alligator

Families and friends are anxiously anticipating the arrival of our Sailors from their Amphibious deployment. As we expect their arrival, we also have personnel leaving on the USS Kearsarge for Exercise Bold Alligator.



## Halloween Party

October 24th, MWR is putting together a Halloween Party for families and children at TACRON from 1800-2000. Come out and enjoy a night filled with activities, prizes, snacks, and trick or treating. The FCPDA is holding a pumpkin carving contest for the best carved pumpkin.



## HOLIDAY PARTY

Currently there is no official date for the holiday party but tentatively it will be January 2015. MWR committee is still discussing details and more details will be announced in the following newsletter.



# TACRON TWO ONE SHIRTS FOR SALE!



\$15 Each or 3 for \$40 Colors: Black, Navy Blue, Tan Sizes: M, L, XL

## HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL

**Blackjacks, family and friends are invited to the Joint Training Room at Building T-111 for a Halloween Festival October 24, 6pm-8pm**

Games and a craft table for the children, Trick or Treating and snacks available. Game tickets are 10 for \$10.00.



**CAN YOU GUESS HOW MANY CANDY CORN ARE IN THE JAR? \$1.00 Per Guess. Winner receives a \$10 gift card to Starbucks.**

**The First Class Petty Officer Association is sponsoring a Pumpkin Carving Contest! Bring your carved pumpkin to be judged! Entry fee is \$5.00. Winner will receive a \$25.00 NEX gift card.**

**Best boy/girl costume contest and the winner of the door decorating contest will be announced.**



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OS2 (SW) Laginess

OS3 Tige



## Welcome! to the Blackjack Family:

LCDR Oliver, OSI Tate, IS3 Burks, ACAN Adams, ACAN Dwyer, ACAN Sanchez, ITSA Weaver

### Happy September/October Birthdays to the following Shipmates:

#### September

Lt Weiland

AC2 Jones, A.

AC2 Green

AC3 Bostrom

IS3 Burks

ACAN Adams



#### October

ITC Hazen

AC1 Lowery

AC1 Nolan

OS2 Waugh

AC2 Guilford

AC2 Winters

OSC McElroy

AC1 Nichols

YN1 Falls

AC2 Jones, C.

AC2 Mills

OS2 Rosenbaum

# Happy Birthday NAVY

## TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINE YEARS

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on 13 October 1775, by authorizing the procurement, fitting out, manning, and dispatch of two armed vessels to cruise in search of munitions ships supplying the British Army in America. The legislation also established a Naval Committee to supervise the work. All together, the Continental Navy numbered some fifty ships over the course of the war, with approximately twenty warships active at its maximum strength. In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of 13 October as the Navy's birthday. The Navy Birthday is intended as an internal activity for members of the active forces and reserves, as well as retirees, and dependents.

## Navy Slang

Gear Adrift – Said when there is loose or unsecured equipment.

"Pick up the gear adrift from the deck, it doesn't belong there."

Deck – Floor. "Strip and wax the deck shipmate."

Gundeck - Falsifying records and reports. "Do not gundeck maintenance checks or you will end up in Captain's Mast"